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COUNTRY **Iraq**DATE DISTR. **13 January 1953**SUBJECT **Comments of Sharif Shaykh on
Baghdad Demonstrations** 25X1ANO. OF PAGES **1**PLACE
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

Attached for your retention is a translation of an article on the demonstrations which took place in Baghdad in late November 1952. The article, written by Sharif Shaykh, Secretary General of the Iraqi Communist Party, appeared in the end of November issue of al-Qa'ida, clandestine newspaper of the Iraqi Communist Party.

Encl: 1 document (3 pages).

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The Approved for Release 2002/08/09 : CIA-RDP83-00415R013900030009-5
newspaper of the Communist Party of Iraq, carried the following article under the by-line of "Basim", which is the pseudonym of Sharif al-Shaykh.

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The Continuation of the Struggle of the People

After the passing of four years since the uprising of January 1948, the City of Baghdad saw a new uprising by the people during which uprising tens of thousands of students, intellectuals and poor people participated in the fighting in the streets. The populace brought down the government of Mustafa al-Umari at the price of the blood of its brave sons, prevented the forming of a government under the premiership of the traitor Jamil al-Midfai, and fought to produce a government of national origins which would fight against the Imperialists; a government which would fulfill the demands of the public. After the criminal judges were tired of attempting to end the struggle of the public by police dictatorship and by spilling the blood of over 100 fighting youths in the streets of Baghdad, Abd-al-Ilah and Nuri Sa'id, under the orders of the British Ambassador, tried to institute a military fascist dictatorship. They formed a criminal government headed by the hero of the Palestine farce, the Chief of Staff of the Army, the traitor Nur-al-Din Mahmud. They declared Martial Law, and they Gestapo-like let the police, and spies loose into the house and the streets, and arrested new thousands of the sons of the nation. And they accused them and sent them to prison after fascist mock trials in martial Law Courts with the idea of stopping the public's fighting and of reinstating the rule of the feudal and dictatorial Imperialists and of completing the warlike projects of the Anglo-American Imperialists. THIS IS AN ENCLOSURE TO

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In what direction will the struggle of the public go? Will the dictatorship over the public continue? What should be done?

It is wrong to suppose that what happened in the uprising of 1948 will happen again today. Although a Military Dictatorship

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-2-

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has been formed, and although there is Martial Law, the (possibility of) striking a hard new blow against the Communist Party and the revolutionary movement, and the (possibility that) Imperialism and reaction will succeed in smashing the public uprising is a dream not again to be realized. The only remaining direction for Feudalism, Imperialism and Criminal Dictatorship is for them to get weaker and weaker and to go to their final doom. In the meantime, the National Movement will continually get stronger and stronger, and the public will achieve its revolutionary aim to continue its fight for peace and to destroy dictatorial rule and to guarantee its own demands. This uprising has the following advantages over the last one: First, there were revolutionary operations by the fallahin in various sectors directed against Feudalism and the government; second, the presence of our Party - which had benefitted from its mistakes in the uprising of 1948 - commanding and guiding the public; third, the basic uprising of the workers and the oppressed in the street fighting in Baghdad; fourth, the lessons from which the public benefitted as a result of its trials in the 1948 uprising. (continued on page 3)

This uprising will increase and the understanding between city dwellers and country dwellers under the leadership of the intellectuals will become stronger and stronger. The action taken by the Dictatorship, due to its hysteria, in closing the reactionary and the bourgeois parties and their newspapers and in arresting their leaders does not conform with the purposes of the dictatorship, but puts it in a tight spot and develops revolutionary feeling. The Imperialist Feudal group has not been consolidated by the Military Dictatorship, but has become weaker than before, because the Dictatorship today faces other difficulties in addition to growing public resistance. And the following are the other difficulties; first, there exists a nationalist spirit among the greater portion of the soldiers and officers of the army which makes them reserves for the revolutionary movement and not for reactionary imperialism; second, conflicts in the ranks of the big reactionary leaders of the army makes them partners in the digging of the grave of this (reactionary) order. The question is not one of the stabilization of the present order, but is one of whether it is possible for the Criminal Dictatorship to last over a relatively short or long period.

This situation makes certain things fall upon our shoulders and the honorable nationalist strugglers of various nationalities, religions, and political beliefs. The things that fall are historic duties and responsibilities. They have to pay attention to these duties to ensure the continuation of the national struggle and the realization of the aims of this uprising. It is the duty of these people to put to rout the principles of opportunism and defeatism which represents the Dictatorial Order (which is shaky), and to substitute for them a firm and stable order while at the same time representing the ostensible popular movement as a weak and retrograde one. It is their duty to double their activity in fighting the crimes and plots of warlike imperialism and to fight military or police dictatorship; and it is their duty to contact the

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-3- SECURITY INFORMATION

soldiers and the honorable officers and to make them understand that their duty is the defense of the country and of the people against the enemies, who are the foreign imperialists. Their duty is not the defense of the interest of feudalism, reaction, and imperialism through spilling the blood of the sons of the public. It is not proper for soldiers and honorable officers to make mercenaries of themselves and to work for the interest of the enemies of the nation and for the protection of the criminal military dictatorship. It is their duty to spread important political symbols by demonstrating on a larger and larger scale (At their head the symbol of the Defense of Peace and the downfall of dictatorial rule) to the sons of the nation- including the soldiers- and to encourage and drive the public, in particular the workers and the fellahim, to increase their revolutionary trend and its fighting power in a National Popular Front in order to realize the aims of this uprising and to continue the fight of the nation and to do away with Martial Law immediately and to bring about the downfall of every treacherous government.

And these multiple duties fall upon our Communist Comrades: the continuation of their political activity to strengthen the ties of our Party with the Public and for the aiding of the public in its fight against dictatorship, reaction, and imperialism. For Peace, for the needs of the nation, and from another viewpoint, to increase and expand our Party's membership, especially among workers and fellahim.

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